IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION of

Sean J. WILLEMS et al.

Application No. 09/971,114

Filed: October 5, 2001

Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR DETERMINING THE
OPTIMUM CONFIGURATION STRATEGY FOR SYSTEMS
WITH MULTIPLE DECISION OPTIONS

Group Art Unit: 2163

Examiner: Unknown

* * * * *

February 8, 2002

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
  and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Attached is Form PTO-1449 listing the enclosed document.

This IDS is being filed before the issuance of a first Office Action on the merits,
therefore, no fee is due. Should a first Action on the merits have been issued on the same
day or before this Information Disclosure Statement is filed, please accept this Information
Disclosure Statement under Rule 97(c) and charge the requisite Rule 1.17(p) fee to our
Deposit Account No. 03-3975 under Order No. 82106/274056 and proceed to consider this
Information Disclosure Statement.

This IDS is intended to be in full compliance with the rules, but should the
Examiner find any part of its required content to have been omitted, prompt notice to
that effect is earnestly solicited, along with additional time under Rule 97(f), to enable
Applicant to comply fully.

Consideration of the foregoing and enclosures plus the return of a copy of the
enclosed Form PTO-1449 with the Examiner's initials in the left column per MPEP
609 along with an early action on the merits of this application are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

PILLSBURY WINTHROP LLP

By

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FORM PTO-1449 (modified)
To: U.S. Department of Commerce
(PW FORM PAT-1449)
Patent and Trademark Office

FEB 0 8 2002

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
BY APPLICANT

Date: February 8, 2002   Page | 1 | of | 2

Atty. Dkt. No.	M#	Client Ref.
	274056	RECEIVED
	Applicant: Sean P. WILLEMS	
	Appln. No.: 09/971,114	
	Filing Date: October 5, 2001	
Examiner: UNKNOWN	Group Art Unit: 2163	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials*		Document Number	Date MM/YYYY	Name (Family Name of First Inventor)	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date (if appropriate)
	AR						
	BR						
	CR						
	DR						
	ER						
	FR						
	GR						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Document Number	Date MM/YYYY	Country	Inventor Name		English Abstract		Translation Readily Available	
							Enclosed	No	Enclosed	No
	HR									
	IR									
	JR									
	KR									
	LR									
	MR									

OTHER (Including in this order Author, Title, Periodical Name, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

	NR	Chand et al., "Planning Horizon Procedures for Machine Replacement Models with Several Possible Replacement Alternatives," *Naval Research Logistics Qurterly* 29:483-493 (1982)			
	OR	Cohen et al., "Optimal Technology Choice in a Dynamic-Stochastic Environment," *Journal of Operations Management* 6"317-331 (1986)			
	PR	Cohen et al., "New Product Development: The Performance and Time-To-Market Tradeoff," *Management Science* 42:173-186 (1996)			
	QR	Datar et al., "Advantages of Time-Based New Product Development in a Fast-Cycle Industry," *Journal of Marketing Research* 34:36-49 (1997)			
	RR	Ettl et al., "A Supply Network Model with Base-Stock Control and Service Requirements," *IBM Technical Report (RC 20473)*, 43 pages (1996)			
	SR	Fine et al., "Optimal Investment in Product-Flexible Manufacturing Capacity," *Management Science* 36:449-466 (1990)			
	TR	Graves, S.C., "Safety Stocks in Manufacturing Systems," *Journal of Manufacturing and Operations Management* 1:67-101 (1988)			
	UR	Hendricks et al., "Delays in New Product Introductions and the Market Value of the Firm: The Consequences of Being Late to the Market," *Management Science* 43:422-436 (1997)			

Examiner	Date Considered:

*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

Atty. Dkt. No.	M#	Client Ref
	274056	RECEIVED FEB 1 1 2002 Technology Center 2100

Applicant: Sean P. WILLEMS

Appln. No.: 09/971,114

Filing Date: October 5, 2001

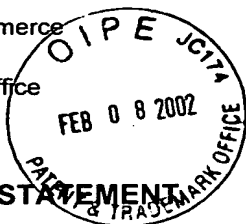| Date: February 8, 2002	Page 2 of 2	Examiner: UNKNOWN	Group Art Unit: 2163

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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	AR						
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	FR									
	GR									
	HR									
	IR									
	JR									
	KR									

OTHER (Including in this order Author, Title, Periodical Name, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

	LR	Inderfurth, K., "Valuation of Leadtime Reduction in Multi-Stage Production Systems," Operations Research in Production Planning and Inventory Control, G. Fandel, T. Gulledge and A. Jones (eds.), pp. 413-427, Springer-Berlin (1993)		
	MR	Kimball, G.E., "General Principles of Inventory Control," *Journal of Manufacturing and Operations Management* 1:119-130 (1988)		
	NR	Krishnan et al., "A Model-Based Approach for Planning and Developing a Family of Technology-Based Products," to appear *in Manufacturing & Service Operations Management*, 37 pages (1998)		
	OR	Lee et al., "Material Management in Decentralized Supply Chains," *Operations Research* 41:835-847 (1993)		
	PR	Rajagopalan et al., "Capacity Expansion and Replacement in Growing Markets with Uncertain Technological Breakthroughs," *Management Science* 44:12-30 (1998)		
	QR	Sanderson, S.W., "Cost Models for Evaluating Virtual Design Strategies for Multicycle Product Families," *Journal of Engineering and Technology Management* 8:339-358 (1991)		
	RR	Simpson, K.F., "In-process Inventories," *Operations Research* 6:863-873 (1958)		
	SR	Ulrich et al., "Including the Value of Time in Design for Manufacturing Decision Making," *Management Science* 39:429-447 (1993)		

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